



News Release

Joint Program Executive Office, Joint Tactical Radio System

Contact: Steven A. Davis

Desk: 619.524.3432 / Mobile: 619.208.7195

steven.a.davis@navy.mil

June 30, 2008 (JPEO-NR-2008-007)

JPEO JTRS and SDR Forum Team to Shape Future of Software Defined Radios for Military Forces

The Joint Program Executive Office for the Joint Tactical Radio System (JPEO JTRS), based in San Diego, Calif., and the Software Defined Radio Forum (SDR Forum), based in Phoenix, Ariz., have signed a formal agreement to collaborate and share information. This teaming will allow commercial industry participants to have greater visibility into Department of Defense (DoD) requirements, processes, and science and technology needs for JTRS programs. In addition, the agreement provides a vehicle for forming partnerships among JPEO JTRS and SDRF members to explore new technologies and processes currently at the forefront of the commercial wireless communications industry.

The vision for the agreement was formed after JPEO JTRS sponsored the first JTRS Science and Technology Forum (JSTeF) in February 2008 to an audience of government, industry and academia representatives. At this inaugural forum held on the campus of the University of California, San Diego at the California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology facility, small technology firms, funded by the Small Business Innovative Research under JPEO JTRS sponsorship, presented innovative ideas and capabilities to major defense firms currently engaged in the DoD's wireless tactical radio programs.

With more than 150 attendees, this successful event highlighted the benefits of growing communications among all parties involved. "Our vision for this forum is to build a community that is exploring new science and technology possibilities for software defined radios and wireless networking" said Dennis Bauman, who leads JPEO JTRS. "This community, consisting of industry, academia and government, is critical to the success and future of the Joint Tactical Radio System."

The same basic need for communication and collaboration also drove the creation and growth of the SDRF. The field of software defined radios has been technically challenging over the last decade as standards and digital hardware have evolved to meet the extraordinarily high demands of this application. Working together, standards and technical techniques are being developed that will meet stringent DoD security and reliability requirements while also enabling cost-effective SDR implementations for consumer and commercial products.

This agreement extends the previous affiliation of the organizations to include joint conferences and workshops; exchange of technical papers, data, reports and comments; and shared activities of mutual interest.

"The SDR Forum is delighted to be extending its long standing relationship with the JTRS program to include this new level of cooperation," said Lee Pucker, SDR Forum Chief Executive Officer. "Relationships such as these are important to the SDR Forum's members at all levels of the value

chain, allowing them to leverage the strengths of both organizations to ensure the success of next generation radio technologies.”

To publicize this increased communication and collaboration, the SDR Forum and the JPEO JTRS will sponsor a joint SDR Forum technical meeting and JSTeF in January 2009. The SDR Forum technical meeting will continue to focus on meeting the needs of its members by supporting the development and deployment of software-defined and cognitive radio technologies that enable flexible and adaptable architectures in advanced wireless systems. The JSTeF will focus on the DoD-specific aspects of wireless network systems by discussing JTRS processes, emerging science and technology opportunities and requirements, specifically in the areas of network security, secure radio architecture and software development standards. Additionally, JSTeF will introduce numerous small businesses engaged in the wireless communications industry to the SDR Forum and the wealth of information available through the forum.

In the 1980s, DoD was at the center of expertise in the fields of advanced electronics technology and wireless communications. This center of expertise has shifted to commercial industry due to the enormous global popularity of wireless communications products and the resulting research and engineering budgets of the world’s commercial electronics firms. The partnership that JPEO JTRS is seeking with SDR Forum and the greater commercial and academic community will provide bi-lateral technical information exchange, increased business opportunities for technology firms that have not traditionally been aligned to the DoD customer and wireless communications products that provide more capabilities for warfighters and a better value to taxpayers.

For additional information, see the following links:

JPEO JTRS: <http://jpeojtrs.mil/>

SDR Forum: <http://www.sdrforum.org/>

JSTeF #1: <http://www.calit2.net/newsroom/article.php?id=1253>

CALIT2: <http://www.calit2.net/index.php>

About JPEO JTRS

The Joint Tactical Radio System, headquartered in San Diego, Calif, was initiated in early 1997 to improve and consolidate the Services’ pursuit of separate solutions to replace existing legacy radios in the Department of Defense inventory. The JTRS program has evolved from separate radio replacement programs to an integrated effort to network multiple weapon system platforms and forward combat units where it matters most – the last tactical mile. JTRS will link the power of the Global Information Grid to the warfighter in applying fire effects and achieving overall battlefield superiority.

JTRS is developing an open architecture of cutting edge radio waveform technology that allows multiple radio types (e.g., handheld, aircraft, maritime) to communicate with each other. The goal is to produce a family of interoperable, modular software-defined radios which operate as nodes in a network to ensure secure wireless communication and networking services for mobile and fixed forces. These goals extend to U.S. allies, coalition partners and, in time, disaster response personnel.